

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 01711 151039Z
ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 NEA-10 IO-13 DHA-02 EB-08 /093 W
-----151149Z 037478 /14

R 150955Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6046
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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DEPT PASS USAID/NESA; ALGIERS FOR MURRAY USDA; RABAT FOR AGATT
KUHL

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EAD EAGR TS
SUBJECT: PL-480 TITLE I ALLOCATION FOR TUNISIA: IMPLI-
Z CATIONS OF DROUGHT

REF: TUNIS 1691; 76 TUNIS 8040; AND 76 TUNIS 6845.

1. WITH ALREADY SERIOUS AND POTENTIALLY DISASTROUS SITUATION FOR TUNISIAN CEREAL CROP TO BE HARVESTED MAY-JULY (TUNIS 1691), TUNISIA WILL FACE SHARPLY INCREASED IMPORT REQUIREMENTS /AT LEAST 600,000 MT--350,00 MT MORE THAN PREVIOUSLY ANTICIPATED) PRESSING UPON PHYSICAL CAPACITY TO IMPORT AND DRASTICALLY UPON BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DURING CRITICAL FIRST YEAR OF FIFTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN. FURTHER SOCIO-POLITICAL ASPECT IS ESPECIALLY SEVERE SHORTFALL FORESEEN FOR SOUTH AND CENTRAL TUNISIA, WHERE MOST OF CEREAL PRODUCTION (BARLEY AND DURUM --20 TO 30 PERCENT OF NATIONAL CEREAL OUTPUT) CONSUMED ON FIRM OR BARTERED BY PEASANTS WITH MINIMAL CASH INCOME. (AS NOTED IN 76 TUNIS 6845, CEREALS IN FORM OF WHEAT OR BARLEY BREAD AND SEMOLINA FOR COUSCOUS AND PASTA ARE THE BASIC SOURCE OF PROTEIN AS WELL AS CALORIES IN TUNISIAN DIET).

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 01711 151039Z

2. WE CAN EXPECT GOT REQUEST FOR SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL QUANTITY OF TITLE I WHAT (AND PERHAPS TITLE II FOR SOUTH/CENTRAL), WHICH WE WILL HAVE TO ADDRESS MAINLY IN CONTEXT OF FY'78 PROGRAM; HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF OUR COMMITMENT AT OCTOBER SESSION OF JOINT COMMISSION TO REVIEW BALANCE OF TUNISIAN TITLE I REQUEST

FOR FY'77 (GOT ASKED FOR 80,000 MT AND WE PROVIDED 40,000) IN LIGHT OF EVOLVING SUPPLY SITUATION, NOW CLEARLY WOULD APPEAR TO BE TIME FOR US AGENCIES TO TKE UP THIS ADDITONAL 40,000 MT ALLOCATION FOR TUNISIA.

3. WE WOULD HOPE TO BE IN POSITION TO RESPOND TO GOT ON THIS QUANTITY BY TIME OF VISIT OF UNDERSECRETARY HABIB IN MID-APRIL. GIVEN NECESSARILY DELIVER AT PACE OF PROJECT AID AND DIFFICULTIES WE FACE IN RESPONDING BROADLY TO GOT REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN CONTEXT OF NEW PLAN AND JUNE CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOW WE CAN DELIVER ON OUR COMMITMENTS AND MOVE EXPEDITIOUSLY TO HELP MEET HUMANITARIAN NEEDS.
MULCAHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD ASSISTANCE, PL 480 TITLE 1, GRAINS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TUNIS01711
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770088-0648
Format: TEL
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770357/aaaabxur.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: effc80b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TUNIS 1691, 76 TUNIS 8040, 76 TUNIS 6845
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3098921
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PL-480 TITLE I ALLOCATION FOR TUNISIA: IMPLI- Z CATIONS OF DROUGHT
TAGS: EAID, EAGR, EPAP, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/effc80b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009